

USAID Invites Proposals under Gender Equity Program

In partnership with Pakistan's AURAT Foundation, the U.S. Agency for International Development invites interested and qualified organizations to submit proposals for funding under the new **Gender Equity Program**.

The **Gender Equity Program** represents an innovative and strategic approach to women's empowerment. The AURAT Foundation, in partnership with the Asia Foundation (TAF) as sub-contractor, will provide grants to a variety of civil society actors working in the area of gender equity and human rights, focused on four objectives:

- Enhancing gender equity by expanding women's access to justice and women's human rights;
- Increasing women's empowerment by expanding knowledge of their rights and opportunities to exercise their rights in the workplace, community, and home;
- Combating gender-based violence; and,
- Strengthening the capacity of Pakistani organizations that advocate for gender equity, women's empowerment, and the elimination of gender-based violence

Potential grantees will include government agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations, Community-Based Organizations, policy "think tanks," academic research and training institutions, professional and business associations, media, Civic Advocacy Organizations, and Civil Society Coalitions.

The **Gender Equity Program** will award approximately 400 grants over the life of the program, in line with the following three tiers.

- Tier 1: up to \$25,000 (the majority of awards will be in this tier);
- Tier 2: between \$25,000-100,000
- Tier 3: between \$100,000-250,000

Grant funding under the program will support studies, capacity building, financial management and monitoring systems, to improve results and increase accomplishments of institutions working on gender equity and improving the lives of Pakistani women.

The **Gender Equity Program** expects to issue more than 50 grants in its first year, , with more than half of these as "fast-track" grants to support flood-related activities by the end of the year.

For further information about the grants program, please visit the following website:

<http://www.af.org.pk/gep/>

For general questions/queries, please contact AURAT Foundation at: info.gep@af.org.pk or by mail at: PO Box No. 1105, Islamabad, PAKISTAN.